Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. R4-7-24

Issued at: Dillingham, Alaska November 27, 2024

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Sunday, December 1, 2024

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2025 unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes bull moose hunting under RM585 in Game Management Units 17B&C. This emergency order does not affect any other moose hunting regulation in Unit 17.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.045(15)**, **Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Moose**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

Resident
Open Season
(Subsistence
General Hunt

Nonresident Open Season

Units and Bag Limits

(15)

. . .

Unit 17(B), that portion in the Unit 17(B) nonresident closed area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only; however, during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 15, spike-fork bulls and bulls with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more

Aug. 20 – Sept. 15 [DEC. 1 – DEC. 31]

1 antlered bull moose by registration permit only

No open season

All other moose regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Doug Vincent-Lang

Commissioner

By delegation to:

John H. Landsiedel

Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

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JUSTIFICATION:

Due to conservation concerns over the total number and availability of bulls for hunters, both Units will be closed to hunting under RM585. The population uncertainty and potential for high accessibility to the wintering moose congregations puts these moose at risk of overharvest.

Registration moose hunt RM585 was designed to supplement fall moose hunting opportunity by providing a limited number of bull moose permits in years when the population allows. Resident fall moose hunters in Units 17B were successful during the fall under both general season and RM583 hunts reporting a total of 57 bulls harvested, while 17C hunters reported 168 bulls harvested. Additional opportunity was permitted during the fall season for resident hunters holding RM583 in both 17B&C. Additionally, non-resident hunters harvested a total of 60 bull moose under the general hunting season and RM587 in Unit 17B.

Hunters in 17C were successful this season in meeting the minimum harvest objective and the most recent population survey marginally exceeded the population objective in 2023 which estimated the population at $3,629 \pm 348$ moose. Conversely, Unit 17B harvest objectives were not expected to be met. Local managers plan to attempt a 17B moose population survey in February or March when survey conditions are most suitable for moose population counts

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